

cold war in Europe. Later, his career transitioned to project management, and he worked with some of the military's most important and most sophisticated new hardware, such as the M113 and Stryker combat vehicles.

While his military service has led him around the globe, BG Ogg has never forgotten where he comes from. Although he is currently stationed in Michigan, BG Ogg still calls Murfreesboro, Tennessee, home. In fact, he returned to his alma mater, Middle Tennessee State University, to teach ROTC for 4 years. And his two sons now are continuing the family tradition and seeking their degrees at MTSU.

As a fellow MTSU alumnus and former student of MTSU's ROTC program, I thank BG Ogg for his service to his country, and I commend him for his hard work and dedication. I also commend his wife, Pam, and their sons, Jason and Stuart, for the sacrifices they have made as BG Ogg has proudly worn the uniform of this Nation. I wish David Ogg and the entire Ogg family continued success and happiness.

RECOGNIZING SEAN T. COWDEN  
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF  
EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 5, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sean T. Cowden, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Sean has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Sean has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Sean T. Cowden for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout. I am honored to represent Sean in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GERALD  
FORD, 38TH PRESIDENT OF THE  
UNITED STATES

**HON. ARTUR DAVIS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 5, 2007*

Mr. DAVIS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, we overlooked Gerald Ford's significance when he served as President. His tenure was only slightly longer than a congressional term, a cruel irony for a politician whose political career was so grounded in the by-ways of the House. He was hardly a master politician, if

the term refers to the winning of elections or the swift dispatch of opposition: Ford came within an inch of not being re-nominated, and he lost in the general election to the most obscure winner of our times.

This week, as we mourn Ford's passing, his legacy is much clearer: first, he gracefully presided over the aftermath of Richard Nixon's forced removal, and over the culmination of our debacle in Vietnam. Had he gotten either moment wrong, the country might have been ripped into two, bitter competing halves. As we contemplate the mistakes subsequent presidents have made, it is a virtue that Gerald Ford made not a single major error in judgment: he did not blunder into any ill-chosen wars, and as much as an opposition dominated Congress thwarted him, he never resorted to subterfuge in an effort to tip the scales.

Then there is the graceful way Ford practiced politics. The challenge from Ronald Reagan was perilous because even in 1976, Ford was not of a philosophic kin with most Republican primary voters. A less principled president would have demagogued on issues like busing or affirmative action; certainly, he might have abandoned the détente that was a major contributor to taming the Soviet Union. A modern, win-at all cost politician would have savaged an unknown like Jimmy Carter. The fact is that the 1976 election season was at once breathtakingly close and remarkably civil.

Imagine if Gerald Ford's major value, the cultivation of common ground, had dominated the last two fractious decades. Our two major political philosophies would not have been at irreconcilable odds, with both tending to treat each battle as if it were the ultimate one or as if we weren't bound to share a future together. We mourn Gerald Ford's decency and we also mourn the loss of the political character that left the stage when we retired him.

HONORING DENNIS KAMPER

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 5, 2007*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in acknowledging the retirement of Mr. Dennis Kamper and his 38 years of public service to the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Memphis District.

Mr. Kamper began his career as a student earning both a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Engineering at the University of Louisville. With the Corps, Mr. Kamper has served in the Louisville, Philadelphia, and Memphis Districts. At each assignment Mr. Kamper has received praise for his dedication to providing quality products and services to the Corps of Engineers and their customers.

Dennis has been a shining example of the Corps of Engineers' mission through his visionary leadership and exemplary managerial style. These contributions include the design and construction of numerous civil works projects, mentoring and recognition of his employees, his "open door" policy, and implementing and institutionalizing the Army Performance Improvement Criteria (APIC).

In addition to his professional responsibilities, Dennis Kamper has built a legacy as a model citizen and community leader. He is an active member in his church and the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), a strong supporter of Memphis District's Adopt-a-School program, and a speaker at numerous Career Day programs promoting the engineering profession.

Please join me in honoring Dennis Kamper and wishing him the best in a well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING RYAN E. MOSE FOR  
ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE  
SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 5, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ryan E. Mose, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ryan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ryan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ryan E. Mose for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout. I am honored to represent Ryan in the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING HEROISM

**HON. CLIFF STEARNS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 5, 2007*

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, I appreciate this chance to recognize a true hero, someone who put aside the natural reaction to remain safe and instead risked his life to save another.

Wesley Autrey recently demonstrated heroism at the subway station at 137th Street and Broadway. Mr. Autrey was waiting with his two children on the subway platform when he saw a young man suffer a seizure and fall onto the tracks.

Realizing that a train was approaching and with no chance of helping the young man off of the track, Mr. Autrey jumped down onto the tracks and placed his body on top of the victim to protect him from the train. The train missed Mr. Autrey by mere inches and both emerged unscathed.

In a world plagued by terrorism, indifference, and selfishness, Mr. Autrey's action demonstrated a commitment to preserving life and showed that we still have heroes among us. I commend a real American hero, Wesley Autrey.